



In memory of...

DOC CROSBY

Dr. William H. Crosby died from a heart attack on Wednesday, October 15, 1975, in Sanford, Florida.

Dr. Crosby was born in Syracuse, Oct. 2, 1892, the son of Frank L. Crosby and Mary O. Rhodes Crosby.

He is survived by his wife, Eva Stocker Crosby, his brother Wallace L. Crosby, and his sister, Mrs. Vivian Welsh, all of Sanford.

Most IJA'ers know Doc Crosby only because of his interest in juggling. However, Dr. Crosby had practiced physiotherapy for 54 years. He had graduated at the head of his class from a college of physiological therapeutics in Chicago, Illinois and was licensed by examination by the Illinois Medical Board in 1915. With a consulting staff rating at the International Health Resort in Chicago, he built one of the world's first departments of corrective manipulation and was in charge of the entire treatment department before moving to Jamestown, New York.

Doc attended this past year's IJA Convention in Youngstown, Ohio, the largest to date. But, it was Doc who was the General Chairman of the first IJA Convention in Jamestown, in 1948. And, it was his initial success and promotion that paved the way for the rest of us. "He shore wuz a bizzzy feller," was the way George DeMott characterized him at that time.

"Our Doc" had only love and admiration for jugglers, young and old. But, he emphasized how those old time jugglers really loved each other. His feelings about the kinship of all jugglers are best described in his own words in a letter he sent to me this past September.

"Those greats of the past were theatrical psychologists. Oh Boy! Yes! Yes! Yes!

"It was the everlasting dedication of such as these that the I.J.A. came to be.

"When you were at Youngstown you as an individual were fulfilling their hope to perpetuate the (their) art of Juggling so from there you and I and all jugglers are a living active memorial to all those fabulous greats.

"...I intend to write such an article and have it put in as a part of each convention that when the greatest number of Jugs are present - we call a special short meeting to explain our "memorial importance" and Kinship to those who gave us their "all" of which we are a part for ever and ever.

"That understanding will cause us all to feel the elation and Kinship they gave us."

He signed that letter, Doc Crosby - an I.J.A.'er from Way Back.

—Dennis Soldati

VIN CAREY

Vincent M. Carey died of a heart attack on September 21st, 1975, in Baltimore, Maryland. Vin was born in Lenox, Mass., on April 5, 1898.

He is survived by his wife, Winnie Carey, and is buried at Wards Chapel Churchyard.

"In 1946, Lou (Meyer) and Vin traveled to St. Louis, Mo., to attend the International Brotherhood of Magicians convention. They met with Art Jennings and Roger Montandon. There and then the seed was planted that the following year matured into the IJA."

In 1948, at the first IJA Convention, Vin was elected vice-president; the following year, he was elected president. He has also served as director, honorary director, chaplin, and as co-editor or editor of the Newsletter for about 5 years in all.

Vin was known to most jugglers as Vino, The Peerless Clown and had performed his act at several IJA Conventions. Up until 1965, at least, Vin had never missed a

convention. He had also sponsored more members than any other person except Harry Lind.

However, Vin started as a drummer and professional magician. And, he built and sold magical apparatus in his downtown Baltimore shop until 1956. After he retired in 1963 on social security, he continued to play as many dates as allowed by the social security act...until his "full retirement" two years ago.

"Always popular," Vin Carey was glad to meet jugglers and to show his scrapbooks and library on juggling. His basement was a museum of juggling clubs and props of famous jugglers dating back to 1898. In 1969, Vin donated his collection (totaling 124 pieces) to the Circus Hall of Fame in Sarasota, Florida. One of the highlights of the 1974 IJA Convention in Sarasota was a visit to the separate cubical displaying Vin Carey's "artifacts of juggling."

—Dennis Soldati

New York City

FROM KAREN "PRUNES" GERSCH

Having only discovered I.J.A. last year (I lifted the peas & there they were), I was quite taken by all the people, good spirits, ideas, performances & general HOOPLA. It was for me clearly a convention of forbidden delights (It was even better than going home for Chanukah).

I certainly hope (& I can't wait) to get to next year's convention. Maybe by then I'll even be a member. Yes, dear readers, Prunes confesses: mooching off Peter Cunneen's newsletters which are sent to the studio we both share in N.Y. Forgive a poor juggling fan. Me and the city are declaring bankruptcy!

Michael Moschen & I saw the Russian Gymnasts at the Garden. Aside from the usual (& unusual) incredible physical feats, the program included a series of 'modern rhythmic gymnastic' exercises. Two women presented movement to music using a large slender hoop, a big red ball, a long ribbon & clubs which Michael thought were 'Swedish', some lovely, difficult balancing tricks with the ball, and I enjoyed seeing one Russian woman quietly deal with acrobatics and a ribbon far better than an entire stage of Chinese acrobats flinging garments like a scene from a 14th St. fabric loft sale. Some nice aerial tosses & catches with the hoop with graceful movements through and underneath, though the performance we saw, the hoop seemed to have its own ideas about where & how it would move, once even rolling away into the audience. The ribbon appealed to me most (O romantic visualist that I am), but Michael only had eyes for the club swinging which was OK in itself and good to see (as all control of the objects were) integrated with excellent movement. However, we both couldn't help but wish we were seeing three clubs juggled, not just two swung and tossed from hand to hand (The Case of the Missing Cascade?)

Well, this turned into quite a review! I just wanted to tell you about them. They coitiny get the Prunes Seal of Approval & Appreciation! They head west from here to California - you might want to mention in the Newsletter for the benefit of West Coast jugglers and acrobatic freaks.

By the time you receive this, Peter will have passed away to that great establishment in the sky, otherwise known as Carlo Clementi's Commedia Del'Arte School in the Mountains of Ca. (Eureka, to be exact). This leaves 'Piccolo Studio' - our large working loft without its star juggler.

If you're planning ever a visit to the Big Apple, you're welcome to stop by (or stay here) and juggle. We have approximately 1100 sq. ft. with 12½ ft. ceilings, a slack rope, many props and aerial rigging. Could you please mention in the next newsletter that all jugglers or performers visiting N.Y. are welcome to the same.

"SPECIAL UNLIMITED OFFER" - let me know you're coming & I'll bake a pie!

Yours, the Heart-Full Laugher,

Karen "Prunes" Gersch

(ED. - The illustrations appearing throughout this newsletter were drawn by Karen Gersch at last year's convention. For those who attended, I am sure you will recognize these IJA members.)



MARIO WRITES

The second gathering of what might for lack of a better name be called "The Midwest Jugglers" was held last Saturday, Jan. 24th, from Noon to 5:00 p.m. It was a pot luck Juggle In. Food consisted of 24 chocolate cup-cakes, 12 nut balls, at least one apple, and someone even brought a submarine sandwich. Only the apple was consumed while juggling.

33 people attended, coming from such far away places as Northfield, Minnesota and Wheeler, Wisconsin, as well as The Twin Cities area.

FOOL-MOON SAYS

The "juggle-in" in association with my show at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis was a huge success. Many new jugglers appeared, several of them unexpectedly proficient, and as a result of the gathering, there will be similar ones on a fairly regular basis in the future (ie. once a month, maybe).



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JUGGLERS ON TV

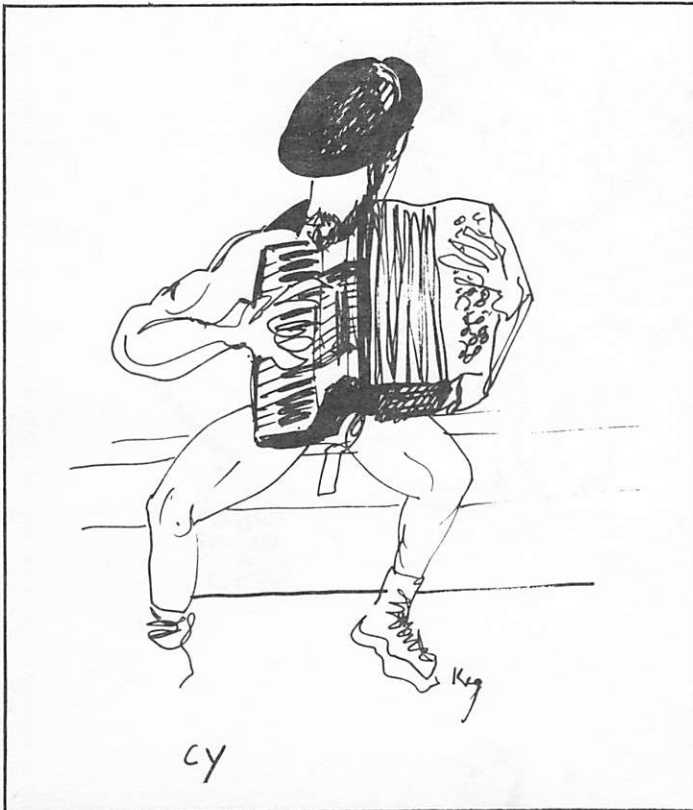
The January 10 edition of ABC-TV's "Saturday Night Live" included juggler Michael Chirrick. Chirrick performed with one to five soccer balls. He rolled the balls all over his body, caught and tossed them all over his body, balanced and twirled them on a mouth-stick and on his fingers, bounced them on his forehead, did two and three and four ball juggling in standard patterns, did summersaults and other modest acrobatics, and did various combinations of the above stunts (e.g., simultaneous finger spin, forehead bounce, and one-hand-two-ball juggle). Mr. Chirrick was very graceful (and limber) as he did his quite impressive stunts. Unfortunately, he was not overly well received by the live audience, and this appeared slightly to disturb his stage presence near the end of his act.

Despite its being afflicted with a terminal case of "hype", we will miss "Saturday Night Live" when it goes off the air after its January 17 show. It is a shame that we will be losing the only TV show which could be counted on to regularly present acts from the "circus arts".

On the December 9, 1975, showing of the Mister Rogers program on public television in Boston, a juggler was featured. Called "Dr. Rapp" (although I am not sure of the spelling), the juggler gave some introductory juggling instruction at a level suitable for children (as befits the Mister Rogers program which is for children). Dr. Rapp also exhibited some fancy three ball juggling.

The edition of "Big Blue Marble" aired January 24, 1976, on Boston's WSBK-TV included a segment filmed at the IJA's 1975 Annual Convention in Youngstown, Ohio. It featured Rick Weinholdt and his brother Tom. The segment was very nicely done and should give a lot of people the urge to attend the next convention. Besides Rick and Tom, a lot of other IJA'ers were recognizable in the segment. The segment was narrated by Rick.

— Dave Walden



From Las Vegas

JOHN McPEAK WRITES

Bob Bramson the famous hoop juggler is now appearing at the new edition of Casino de Paris at the Dunes Hotel.

Gran Picaso is stealing the show in Hallelujah Hollywood at the MGM Grand Hotel.

I am currently tearing up my clubs in my back yard.

The great Rudy Cardenas is now working the Lido in Paris.

My brother appeared on "To Tell the Truth" January 21, 1976. He rode a unicycle 1500 ft. across the Colorado River 700-800 feet up.

Paid Advertisement

Last Chance To Beat Price Rise!

I have already raised the price of my clubs & torches from \$14.75 ea. to \$17.00 ea. But as a special promotion I will accept orders at the old price for 2 weeks from the date that you receive this newsletter. Members from foreign countries can have one month.

INTRODUCING THE 8oz. EUROPEAN CLUB

The first set of these clubs I made for Dick Francis by his special order. He promptly proved their worth by winning our last IJA Club Juggling Routine competition. Steve Mills took second place using my standard weight European club. And Joe Temple Jr. took third place using my standard American size club. And in the 5 club competition, jugglers using my standard European size juggling club took all first, second and third places. Also, Peter Cuneen won the Junior Division competition using my American size club that was made a little heavier for outdoor use at the Great Adventure Amusement Park. As the inventor of this new type club, I am proud of this record.

INTRODUCING THE 8oz. LONG HANDLED EUROPEAN KICK-UP CLUB

I made this new model because of a special order from Joe Sullivan. They are great for speed juggling and make one foot kick-ups much easier. Its handle is 1½ inch longer than Standard model

There is no extra charge for either of these new models.

This past year I have been very late in getting out these numerous club orders. I thank you all for being so patient. If you have paid me, your clubs will be arriving shortly. If you have not paid yet, please do so now because your clubs are ready. Send check or money order to:

Jay Green
(also known as Jerry Greenberg)
1565 E. 9th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11230

SELMA BRAATZ: ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST JUGGLERS

"Selma mostly performed with flaming torches and balls. She was an excellent performer, a top star."

Selma opened her act balancing a tennis racquet on her head and showering 3 tennis balls. After which she ended a 3 ball routine by tossing all three balls in the right hand and letting them bounce on the floor, only to recover them again in the same hand. Next she did three balls in the right hand and two in the left, going into a regular five ball cascade. She then juggled six balls with ease! Her act also included spinning and balancing using books, umbrellas, gloves and billiard cues.

"(She) juggled three billiard cues, catching one at a balance on chin, hit it with hand making it do a half turn catching at balance again. Three cues, two balancing vertically on chin, the third laying horizontally on top of the balanced two. Separates the two apart by head movements allowing the top cue to fall to a head balance and catching the other two in the hands." Selma ended her act "Stripped to bloomers" doing color changing torches.

Her first stage appearance was at the age of 18 in 1902. She retired 35 years later at the age of 53. She had received worldwide acclaim and her name will be everlastingly linked with the greats of juggling.

For awhile she worked as a cook in the United States. And in her later years, she was an active IJA member and attended a number of conventions.

Selma died on July 23, 1973, at 89. She would probably have been lost somewhere in potter's field if it wasn't for the in-

tervention of Lottie Brunn's sister, Annie, who helped with the funeral arrangements. Selma is buried at Rosedale Cemetery in Linden, New Jersey, in the Villa Palmeras section, tier 9, grave 78. However, even now, her grave does not have a headstone or a marker of any kind.

What I am requesting here is a small contribution from all IJA members towards a marker for Selma's grave. The official owner of Selma's grave is the Public Administrator of Manhattan, Mr. Fitzgerald, and I have already received his permission to place a gravestone. He will also allow us \$150 from Selma's estate towards the purchase of a stone. However, this will pay the cemetery charges of \$50 for perpetual care and \$100 for the foundation for the stone. Therefore, all contributions will go directly towards the cost of the gravestone. The cemetery allows gravestones any size up to 4 feet high. It may be one or two pieces. It may also be a flat headstone.

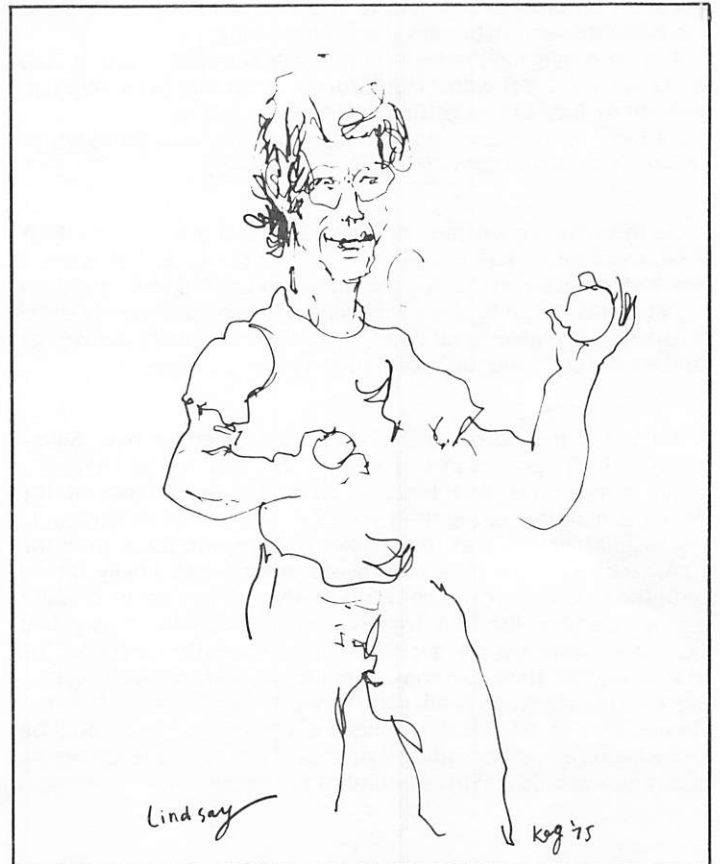
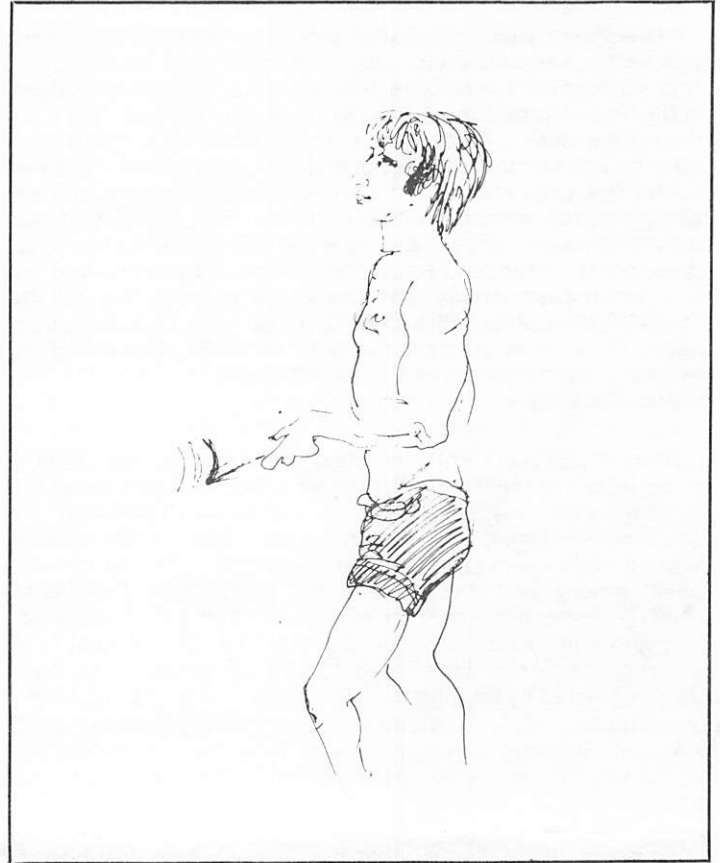
Bobby May was the first contributor and the Brunn family has promised to help. All contributions may be sent to me at the address below. I will report to the Newsletter each month on our progress. And, I will make a complete and detailed financial report listing contributors, contributions, and costs at the 1976 IJA Convention. This report will also become a permanent part of a new IJA Historian's scrapbook.

Send your contribution to: Dennis Soldati, 97-40 62nd Drive, Apt. 8E, Rego Park, New York 11374.





George Sollveno



From Berlin

KARL-HEINZ ZIETHEN WRITES

George Sollveno is a new juggler from Switzerland. He is very good with clubs and shows tricks who does nobody before. His teacher was Jacky Lupescu, the juggler at the slack-wire.

In the east Berliner "Friedrichstadt-Palast" was in December the hoop-juggler Bob Bramson. Now is Bob and his wife Liz in Las Vegas.

To Europe is coming at the second time in April with the Harlem Globetrotters Mike Chirrick, the son of Lottie Brunn.

At the 2 Festival du Cirque in Monte Carlo was only the ball juggler Freddy Kenton (Holland). Susanne & Fudi are again in Britain this summer season in Blackpool at the "Theatre North Pier". The "Royal-Performance-Juggler" Kris Kremo is this season in the German circus Krone. Next year he shows his act in the "Scala" Barcelona and 1978 he stand in the "Lido" Paris or Las Vegas.

In the "Lido-Show" Paris of 1976 you can see Rudy Cardenas and in the "Americana Hotel", San Juan, is working the incredible juggler Francis Brunn.

P.S. Dear Martin Gray: Many thanks for your nice letter and so I hope Joe Sullivan can send me the T-shirts with emblems "Jugglers". A happy new year 1976 to all juggler-friends from Germany to USA, Karl-Heinz Zietzen.

EDITORS NOTEBOOK

In beginning, we would like to explain how last month's Roster-Newsletter was composed. The roster was made up of people who, according to our records, had paid either 1975 or 1976 dues at the time of its printing. Since that time, many people have paid their 1976 dues. These people are listed in the Roster Supplement No. 1 on the last page of this Newsletter. Please copy or cut off this page and keep it with your original roster. If your name does not appear on either of these lists, it means that our records show that you still owe your 1976 dues. Please pay your dues so that we can send you all the pre-convention info. Also, be sure when paying dues that the check is made out to **INTERNATIONAL JUGGLERS ASSOCIATION** - not I.J.A. or any other name. Dues are \$6.00 individual or \$7.00 family. Please mail to Secretary Carol Bengé, 129 Fourth Ave., Bartlett, Ill. 60103 - and specify 1976 dues.

Albert Lucas is currently touring with the Ice Capades. After a performance at the Boston Garden we talked to Albert about his juggling career. He started juggling when he was 3 years old. By age 5 he was juggling 7 hoops in his act. Albert spent several years performing in Las Vegas before putting his act on ice. He likes working with the Ice Capades better than Las Vegas because he now has more time to practice. Albert is 14 years old, and since the Ice Capades tours 10 months a year, he must take correspondence courses to keep up with school work. We were very impressed by his juggling. He juggles 3, 4, and 5 clubs very smoothly, and while we were back stage he got off several good runs with 9 hoops. He said he was sorry that he missed last year's convention due to rehearsal, but he'd try to make it this year.

We would like to mention that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge now has an official Juggling Club, thanks to the efforts of I.J.A. members David Mark and Arthur Lewbel. The club is now meeting once a week in conjunction with the M.I.T. Unicycling Club. We've attended several meetings and the turnout seems to be very good and growing.

Also deserving mention is the un-official Harvard Juggling Club which we also meet with. The turn-out so far has been very bad with many jugglers forgetting their props...tsk, tsk.

We have been hearing good things from the Twin Cities which proves it's not too cold to juggle-in Minnesota.

As this is being written, the exact date and place for the 1976 I.J.A. Convention has not yet been established. At last word, it was narrowed down to one of two hotels in Los Angeles. If you are trying to plan your summer vacation and need to know the dates as soon as possible, send us a self-addressed stamped envelope and we will send you the information as soon as we get it.

We would like to comment on the article concerning Selma Braatz which appears in this issue. The idea for purchasing a grave marker was first brought up by Hovey Burgess at the business meeting during the 1974 I.J.A. Convention in Sarasota. His original thought was to purchase a stone with funds from the I.J.A. treasury. The idea was tossed around and finally tabled until the following year's convention when it was again brought up. At this time, the I.J.A. treasury was not as well off as it had been and some people felt that it was not wise to spend the money at that time. Anyway, the subject was dropped again. Since no progress has been made in nearly two years, we feel that Dennis' idea of individual donations is a good one. This would be a fine gesture and something that should be done. Please send a donation and help make it a reality - it is overdue.

We would like to thank Karen Gersch for trusting us with her sketchbook from the convention. Also, thanks to our European Correspondent Karl-Heinz Zeithen for his photos and articles. They are greatly appreciated. We'd like to hear from other parts of the country and the world. Write us and let us know what's happening!

See you in California,

Don & Lana

CENTER RING

(For B.B.G.)
by Joey Jordan

As objects stream across a sky
of color and illusion,
And more of them are sent to fly
to greaten the confusion,

Silent, other inanimate objects stand,
Waiting, in utter peace, for their master,
To spin upon his careless hand
and blur; as they glide faster,

At war against no enemy,
To dance into a peaceful rage,
To defy the laws of gravity,
and live a dream upon a stage,

To bring to life small golden spheres
and simply set them free,
This brings upon a thousand cheers:
To dare Imposs-i-bil-ity,

To show the world the art you've learned,
and feel happiness in giving,
To hear the cheers that you have earned,
that prove there's more to life;
than Living,

It's sometimes tough to understand
as flaming sticks of fire,
Dare to near their master's hand;
And prove logic as a Liar,

To sweat and yet control with grace,
And seem to always chance,
To laugh at danger in the face,
as the torches speed their dance,

Mystically hoops become living dreams
and truth gives in to lie,
Center ring, still alone it seems;
Beneath a spotlight sky,

The care to keep these spheres above,
And the skill to set them free,
Somehow fills one's life with love;
As God wanted life to be.

1976 I.J.A. ROSTER SUPPLEMENT NO. 1

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NAME CORRECTION

BLUE GIGUERE instead of
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I.J.A. NEWSLETTER

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